Newsitem regarding inspection report indicting banks

1667. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "when the Centre doesn't hold..." appearing in the Indian Express dated 19.10.1996 wherein it has been stated that "while some RBI officers have been able to detect the irregularities committed by bankers, their inspection reports are lying unattended at the DOS", "RBI has at least one inspection report indicting almost all the banks—Government, private and foreign—but they are gathering dust in RBI";

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(c) the number of inspection reports lying unattended in DOS, since when and the reasons for not taking any action thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) prepares inspection reports on individual banks. Such bank-specific reports bring out the irregularities in the functioning of the bank concerned. There is no single omnibus inspection report covering all banks—Government, private and foreign.

(c) According to RBI, there are no inspection reports which are lying unattended to in RBI.

Magisterial power for Income Tax Officers

1668. SHRI RAM GOPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Income Tax Department have sought Magisterial power for Income Tax officers to enable them to take suitable action during raids of income tax cases;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon; and

(c) the steps proposed to provide service revolver to Income Tax officers as self defence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) The matter was examined in consultation with Ministry of Home Affairs Law who opined that the Magisterial Powers cannot be conferred on the Income-tax Officials in view of the Constitutional constraint that 'Law and Order' is a State subject.

(c) No such proposal is being considered at present.

हिमाचल प्रदेश में ऋण प्रदान करने में वित्तीय अनियमितताएं

1669. **श्री महेश्वर सिंह:** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या भारत के नियंत्रक और महालेखा परीक्षक द्वारा हिमाचल प्रदेश में वित्तीय अनियमितताएं बरते जाने और ऋण प्राप्त करने में दलाली देने के मामले सरकार के ध्यान में लाए गए हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) सरकार ने उस पर क्या कार्रवाई की है?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम० पी० वीरेन्द्र कुमार): (क) और (ख) भारत के नियंत्रक और महालेखा-परीक्षक ने ऋणों की उगाही के संबंध में हिमाचल प्रदेश राज्य लेखा-परीक्षा रिपोर्ट 1994-95 में लेखा-परीक्षा टिप्पणी की है। इसे भारत सरकार के ध्यान में नहीं लाया गया है।

(ग) यह राज्य सरकार का प्रमुख दायित्व है कि वह भारत के नियंत्रक और महालेखा-परीक्षक की टिप्पणियों का जवाब दे।